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THREATS TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE
AND SECURITY AND PEACE INITIATIVES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-sixth year

Letter dated 1 July 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Guatemala to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a press release from the Government of the Republic of Guatemala reporting on the recent talks held in Cuernavaca, Mexico, between representatives of the Government and of the Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemalteca (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under agenda item 28, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Francisco VILLAGRAN DE LEON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

Press release issued in Guatemala on 26 June 1991

The Government of the Republic of Guatemala, following the return of the delegation which held talks on its behalf with representatives of the Unidad Revolucionaria Nacional Guatemalteca (URNG) in the city of Cuernavaca, State of Morelos, Mexico, from 17 to 22 June, within the context of the Mexico City Agreements, wishes to report the following:

1. The talks between representatives of the Government of the Republic of Guatemala and of URNG focused on the issue of "democratization", in accordance with the agenda which had been agreed beforehand.

During the talks, the term "democratization", by which is meant the process of furthering democracy in Guatemala and measures to strengthen the democratic institutions in the country in the light of the constitutional norms in effect, served as a frame of reference for tackling the various sub-items on the agenda; these were examined and analysed in detail by both delegations.

Given that it was impossible, owing to lack of time, to deal fully with all the sub-items under this item of the agenda, the two delegations agreed that it was necessary to pursue the talks, and they reiterated their political will to continue discussing the item of democratization at a further meeting to be held in the near future, in order to complete the discussions and to reach agreements on the issue so as to proceed subsequently to the item of human rights.

2. The talks took place in an atmosphere of mutual respect and complete freedom of expression without any negative attitude or stalling, which made it possible to have a serious and exhaustive discussion; this without a doubt is a significant step forward in the process for achieving a firm and lasting peace in our country.

3. At all times, both the Conciliator, Monsignor Rodolfo Quezada Toruño, and the delegates of the National Reconciliation Commission fulfilled their duties as agreed between the parties, making a valuable contribution to the facilitation of talks and to the progress.

The presence of the United Nations observer Mr. Francesc Vendrell, also was a positive factor in the good conduct of the meeting.

4. The date and venue of the next round of talks will be determined in the next few days and efforts will be made to heed the kind offers made by the Governments of friendly countries.

5. The Government of the Republic of Guatemala hereby wishes to express the thanks of the people and Government of Guatemala to the people and Government

of Mexico for their generous hospitality in hosting these meetings; it is a noble and fraternal gesture which strengthens the close bonds that unite us.

6. The Government of the Republic of Guatemala will continue in all areas of national life to make the necessary efforts to resolve the major social, economic and cultural problems of Guatemala; this will help to create favourable conditions for the preservation of a firm and lasting peace and will thereby reaffirm the undertaking entered into with the people of Guatemala.

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